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Strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism within the framework of the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

During the past year, the mandate of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in the provision of technical assistance in promoting the implementation of the universal instruments related to the prevention and suppression of international terrorism has been reinforced by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. The present report reviews the progress made by UNODC in implementing that mandate and has been prepared pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/19. The technical assistance delivery role of UNODC is highlighted, including as a component of the Secretary-General's recommendations for a global counter-terrorism strategy, currently being discussed by the General Assembly. The report also contains information on the cooperation of UNODC with relevant committees and expert groups established by various Security Council resolutions, as well as with various international, regional and subregional organizations. It contains an overview of the most recent substantive developments, including the deliberations of the fifteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and a set of conclusions on the way ahead.

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I. Introduction

1. On 22 July 2005, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 2005/19, in which it requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to intensify its efforts to provide Member States with technical assistance, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation, including in international, national, regional and subregional forums, in preventing and combating terrorism through the facilitation of the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, in particular through training in the judicial and prosecutorial fields in the proper implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism. UNODC was also requested to take into account in its technical assistance programme to counter terrorism the elements necessary for building national capacity in order to strengthen criminal justice systems and the rule of law with a view to facilitating the effective implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism and relevant Security Council resolutions.

2. The present report covers activities undertaken by UNODC, in particular through the Terrorism Prevention Branch and the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, as well as the UNODC field offices, with a view to implementing the aforementioned mandate. It should be read in conjunction with the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism within the framework of the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime" (E/CN.15/2006/12), which provides a detailed account of activities until February 2006.

II. Major substantive developments

A. Recommendations of the Secretary-General for a global counter-terrorism strategy

3. The year under review has, like past years, been marked by terrorist attacks, which have further highlighted the need for a coordinated global approach towards combating terrorism. In the 2005 World Summit Outcome (resolution 60/1), the Secretary-General was invited to submit proposals to the General Assembly and the Security Council to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations to assist States in combating terrorism and to enhance the coordination of United Nations activities in that regard. In his report of 27 April 2006, "Uniting against terrorism: recommendations for a global counter-terrorism strategy" (A/60/825), the Secretary-General provided the Assembly with recommendations for a collective global effort to fight terrorism, especially in developing State capacity to defeat terrorism and defend human rights.

4. In his report, the Secretary-General highlighted the accumulated experience of UNODC in providing legislative and other assistance to facilitate drug control, combat transnational organized crime, money-laundering, terrorism and corruption and enhance international cooperation, especially on extradition and mutual assistance in criminal matters. The Secretary-General also noted that the Office's

ability to do so was enhanced through the use of its field offices, which play a unique role in facilitating and enhancing the provision of technical assistance to States, upon request, regarding the universal instruments related to the prevention and suppression of international terrorism. In his recommendations, the Secretary-General underlined the role of the Terrorism Prevention Branch of UNODC as a provider of technical assistance in legislative drafting and international cooperation, as well as in the training of criminal justice officials. He emphasized that considerable work remained to be done on legislation and on strengthening States' institutional structures and mechanisms to implement it. He urged UNODC to continue its work in that regard and underlined that Member States should consider additional regular budget funding for the Terrorism Prevention Branch for those types of activities.

5. In delivering technical assistance to States, UNODC focuses on addressing ways of strengthening States' capacity to counter terrorism, which is a key element of the Secretary-General's recommendations for a global counter-terrorism strategy. That is done by providing specialized legal expertise to strengthen criminal justice systems with a view to facilitating the effective implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism and relevant Security Council resolutions and with a view to promoting the rule of law.

B. Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force

6. UNODC is an active member of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, established by the Secretary-General in June 2005. The Task Force, a coordinating and information-sharing body of an advisory nature, serves as a forum to discuss strategic issues and to develop policy recommendations. Chaired by the Office of the Secretary-General, it brings together 23 key actors of the United Nations system and its partners that can contribute to an effective coordinated fight against terrorism. UNODC hosted one of the meetings of the Task Force in January 2006.

C. International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism

7. The International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism[1] was adopted by the General Assembly on 13 April 2005. It was opened for signature by all States on 14 September 2005 and will remain open until 31 December 2006. As of 11 July 2006, the Nuclear Terrorism Convention had been signed by 106 States and had been ratified by Kenya, Mexico and Slovakia. The Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of the deposit of the twenty-second instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

8. In its resolution 2005/19, the Economic and Social Council requested UNODC, upon request, to promote in the course of its technical assistance activities the speedy ratification and full implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. General Assembly resolution 60/43 of 8 December 2005, entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism", further

recognized the role of the Terrorism Prevention Branch in assisting States in becoming parties to, and implementing, the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. In response, UNODC has initiated activities in this regard and will organize regional and national technical assistance workshops on the ratification and the legislative implementation of the Convention.

D. Protocols and amendments to the universal legal instruments against terrorism

9. In its resolution 60/43, the General Assembly urged all States to consider, as a matter of priority, becoming parties to the following instruments: the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material;[2] the Protocol of 2005 to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation[3] and the Protocol of 2005 to the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf.[4] Activities to raise awareness of those Protocols and the Amendment and to encourage States to become parties to those instruments as soon as possible are under way. UNODC stands ready to provide further support in this regard.

E. Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

10. At its fifteenth session, from 24 to 28 April 2006, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice considered its standing item on strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in preventing and combating terrorism. During the deliberations, terrorism was identified as one of the most serious challenges facing mankind, and it was condemned in all its forms and manifestations. Support was expressed for the adoption of a comprehensive United Nations strategy to respond to the challenge in line with the recommendations of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change (see A/59/565), the report of the Secretary-General entitled "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all" (A/59/2005) and the 2005 World Summit Outcome (resolution 60/1). It was emphasized that the enhancement of the role of the United Nations in capacity-building, providing technical assistance and promoting regional and bilateral cooperation should be among the most important elements of such a strategy.

11. The Commission expressed support for the assistance provided by UNODC to States in reviewing domestic legislation and procedures and in strengthening capacity to implement laws, rules and procedures, as well as for the technical assistance tools developed by UNODC, including the various legislative guides, training manuals and electronic legal resources. The provision of such tools was recognized as a crucial component of a sustainable capacity-building approach. Several speakers underlined the importance of upholding the rule of law and respect for human rights in the fight against terrorism. It was further emphasized that international cooperation, especially extradition and mutual legal assistance, was crucial to any effort to prevent and combat terrorism. The important work being carried out by the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate as well as the complementarity of the technical assistance delivered by UNODC and its

Terrorism Prevention Branch were highlighted, in conjunction with a call for further reinforcement of those efforts.

12. The international community and donors were called upon to provide additional financial resources for UNODC counter-terrorism activities, especially in view of the need to expand the magnitude of its activities to meet the increasing requirements of States for the implementation of the universal instruments.

III. Cooperation with the subsidiary bodies of the Security Council

A. Cooperation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate

13. UNODC has kept the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate fully informed of its activities, and has shared with the Committee and its Executive Directorate all mission reports and the periodic matrices of ongoing and planned technical assistance activities. Briefings were provided by the Terrorism Prevention Branch to the Committee and its Executive Directorate in March 2005 and June 2006, and by the Global Programme against Money-Laundering to the Executive Directorate in June 2006. Since June 2005, the Terrorism Prevention Branch has participated in the country visits of the Executive Directorate to Albania, Algeria, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United Republic of Tanzania. The Executive Directorate has provided to UNODC its assessment of the technical assistance needs of 47 countries in Africa, the Americas, the Caribbean, South, Central and West Asia, the Pacific and Europe, with the request that UNODC should attempt to assist in meeting those needs, in consultation with the concerned countries.

B. Cooperation with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) and its Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team

14. Cooperation has been strengthened between UNODC and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities and its Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team. In March 2006, members of the Monitoring Team met relevant UNODC staff to discuss possible areas of cooperation. In June 2006, the Terrorism Prevention Branch briefed the Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee and the Monitoring Team on the mandate of UNODC. Subsequently, the Committee endorsed the proposal of the Monitoring Team to work with UNODC, in coordination with the Executive Directorate, in several areas. When providing technical assistance to States, UNODC will reinforce States' international capacity in the legislative and regulatory areas to implement the Al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions regime, in particular the assets freeze measures, and assist States in drafting the parts of their reports to the Committee in areas in which UNODC has specialized expertise. UNODC will also assist in disseminating information on the Al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions regime and in explaining to the relevant national

authorities, including judges and prosecutors, the scope of States' obligations with regard to measures under the Al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions regime imposed by Security Council resolution 1267 (1999) and subsequent resolutions.

C. Cooperation with the Security Council Working Group established pursuant to resolution 1566 (2004)

15. In its resolution 1566 (2004) of 8 October 2004, the Security Council decided to establish a working group to consider and submit recommendations to the Council on practical measures to be imposed upon individuals, groups or entities involved in or associated with terrorist activities, other than those designated by the Al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee. The Council further requested that the working group consider the possibility of establishing an international fund to compensate victims of terrorist acts and their families and submit its recommendations to the Council. At the invitation of the Working Group, UNODC provided a briefing to the Working Group in March 2005. In its report to the Security Council of 16 December 2005 (S/2005/789), the Working Group recognized the importance of helping victims of terrorist acts and recommended that the best approach for the time being was to encourage individual States to determine ways and means to extend assistance to victims of terrorist acts.

IV. Technical assistance initiatives

16. UNODC, through its Terrorism Prevention Branch, has conducted numerous counter-terrorism technical assistance activities at the national, subregional and regional levels within the framework of the global project on strengthening the legal regime against terrorism. The Anti-Money-Laundering Unit of UNODC is conducting activities on countering the financing of terrorism and money-laundering through the Global Programme against Money-Laundering.

17. The activities of the Terrorism Prevention Branch follow a five-step methodology: (a) analysing relevant national legislation; (b) working with national authorities and identifying needs; (c) assisting in drafting national laws for implementing counter-terrorism instruments; (d) recommending further implementation steps and undertaking active follow-up; and (e) training criminal justice officials in implementing the new laws and international judicial cooperation. The focus of the technical assistance of UNODC is shifting from the primary phase of ratification support to the more complex phase of legislative implementation and support for national counter-terrorism capacity-building for criminal justice systems, in particular through specialized training in the judicial and prosecutorial fields. The scope of assistance provided has been broadening, in terms of geographical reach, the number of countries receiving assistance and the substantive content of the assistance provided. A concerted effort is also being made by UNODC to initiate and reinforce technical assistance delivery, especially in Southern and East Africa, as well as in South Asia and the Pacific.

A. Bilateral activities

18. UNODC continued to undertake technical assistance missions to countries requesting legal advice on the ratification of provisions of the universal anti-terrorism instruments and their incorporation into national legislation. Those missions often result in action plans. Since the start of the global project on strengthening the legal regime against terrorism in January 2003, 77 countries have been provided with direct bilateral technical assistance, which has contributed to an increased number of ratifications and the development of new or revised counter-terrorism legislation in at least 29 countries.

19. From July 2005 to June 2006, the Terrorism Prevention Branch has conducted various technical assistance activities involving the following countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Comoros, Croatia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Indonesia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Mongolia, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of the Congo, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Serbia and Montenegro, South Africa, Uzbekistan and Yemen.

20. In addition, the Terrorism Prevention Branch has conducted videoconferences as a cost-effective means of delivering technical assistance, especially for follow-up activities and the sharing of expertise with legal practitioners, with the following countries: Central African Republic, Congo, Madagascar, Mali, Sri Lanka and United Republic of Tanzania. For example, experts from the Congo discussed specific aspects of their penal law reform relating to terrorism at a videoconference on the legislative incorporation of the universal instruments against terrorism, held in May 2006.

21. Training activities have been undertaken to provide legal practitioners with information on the international conventions and protocols against terrorism and on international cooperation in criminal matters. UNODC has initiated a specialized training programme in combating terrorism to train criminal justice practitioners in counter-terrorism issues. Upon the request of the Government of Burkina Faso, a three-week pilot training session was organized in February-March 2006, during which five judges and prosecutors from Burkina Faso were trained by various specialized organizations and institutions in various countries and at UNODC headquarters.

22. Following specific requests from countries to receive combined training on money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, the Terrorism Prevention Branch and the Global Programme against Money-Laundering organized and moderated joint workshops in the Gambia in June 2005 and in Yemen in March 2006.

B. Subregional, regional and international activities

23. Initial regional workshops to mobilize political commitment and intensify national action to ratify and implement the universal instruments against terrorism have been followed by an intensification of support in the area of international cooperation in criminal matters relating to terrorism, as well as training seminars and specialized courses to reinforce the ability of the national criminal justice systems to tackle terrorist criminal behaviours. Furthermore, UNODC has also

concentrated its efforts to review the progress made in this area of work and to identify gaps where assistance is still necessary. From July 2005 to June 2006, 10 regional and subregional workshops took place in cooperation with various organizations (see the annex to the present report).

24. The Madrid Ministerial Round Table of West and Central African Countries on a Counter-Terrorism Legal Framework took place from 25 to 26 May 2006 in Madrid. The representatives of 26 West and Central African countries attended, as well as representatives from various organizations, including the African Union, the Central African Economic and Monetary Union, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the Economic Community of Central African States, the European Union, the International Criminal Police Organization, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. The government representatives reported on the progress made in their respective countries to ratify the universal legal instruments against terrorism, bring their national legal systems in line with the provisions of such instruments and report to the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Security Council on steps taken to implement Security Council resolution 1373 (2001). The Round Table adopted the Madrid Declaration and Plan of Action on strengthening the legal regime against terrorism in West and Central Africa, which specifies concrete measures and steps to be taken by all participating countries at the national level and appropriate joint activities at the subregional level.

25. The Ministerial Conference on International Cooperation against Terrorism and Transnational Organized Crime was held in Panama City from 4 to 7 April 2006, in cooperation with the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States, and the Government of Panama. It was attended by officials from Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, as well as from the Counter-Terrorism Committee and relevant international organizations. The Conference culminated in the adoption of the Panama Declaration (A/60/820, annex), which is a comprehensive document manifesting the commitment of participating countries in the fight against terrorism and organized crime and which contains important guidelines for the continuation of UNODC technical assistance activities in those countries.

26. The Third Conference of Ministers of Justice of Francophone African Countries for the ratification and implementation of the universal instruments against terrorism, which was jointly organized with the International Organization of la Francophonie and the Government of Egypt, was held from 7 to 9 February 2006 in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. The conference participants adopted a declaration in which the countries made a strong commitment to become parties and implement the universal instruments against terrorism and called upon UNODC to provide necessary assistance for strengthening international cooperation in criminal matters related to terrorism. The Sharm el-Sheikh declaration had been preceded by two declarations, which were adopted in Cairo, on 4 September 2003, and in Port Louis, on 27 October 2004. At the next conference, which will be held in Burkina Faso in December 2006, the ministers of justice will review the status of the implementation of the Sharm el-Sheikh declaration.

27. From 11 to 17 March 2006, UNODC organized, jointly with the Ministry of Justice and the Central Bank of Djibouti, a training workshop for States members of

the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) on international cooperation in the fight against terrorism and its financing. Among the topics addressed at the workshop were money-laundering, terrorist financing and international legal and police cooperation. Delegates from 15 COMESA member States as well as experts from the Central Bank of Djibouti and various governmental departments, attended the working sessions.

C. Activities to counter money-laundering and the financing of terrorism

28. The International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism,[5] which entered into force on 10 April 2002, requires States parties to the Convention to take measures to protect their financial systems from abuse by persons planning or engaged in terrorist activity. The Global Programme against Money-Laundering of UNODC has been assisting Member States in achieving that objective by strengthening the ability of Member States to implement measures in anti-money-laundering and countering the financing of terrorism and assisting them in detecting, seizing and confiscating illicit proceeds. The Global Programme has been fulfilling its mandate principally through technical cooperation and information collection on anti-money-laundering and countering the financing of terrorism. With the assistance of advisers stationed in the field, the Global Programme has been assisting legal, financial and law enforcement authorities to develop the necessary infrastructure to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism. Specific initiatives have been prepared on awareness-raising, legislative drafting, training and institution-building, in particular the establishment of financial intelligence units, which are the central agencies responsible for receiving, analysing and disseminating information related to anti-money-laundering and countering the financing of terrorism. Over the years, the Global Programme has developed and maintained strategic relationships and conducted many joint projects with partner international organizations working in that field, including technical assistance partners and standard-setting bodies.

29. On behalf of a partnership of international organizations involved in anti-money-laundering and countering the financing of terrorism, the Global Programme administers a one-stop research resource, which includes a password-restricted legal database analysing the relevant legislation of Member States.

D. Increasing synergies and operational partnerships

30. The counter-terrorism activities of UNODC are aligned with its strategic objective of promoting the rule of law. The initiatives of UNODC to counter terrorism, organized crime and corruption are based on the premise that, to be effective, they should operate within the framework of strong criminal justice institutions working within the rule of law. As the custodian of United Nations standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, technical assistance offered by UNODC focuses on strengthening the criminal justice process and institutions. That includes projects aimed at improving the management and operation of law enforcement agencies, courts and the judiciary, as well as penitentiary systems. Counter-terrorism work is thus undertaken with a cross-cutting

perspective, taking fully into account the work on the drugs and crime conventions. The transversality of the work of UNODC on international cooperation in criminal matters related to drugs, crime and terrorism gives UNODC and its field offices a comparative advantage in assisting Member States in countering those phenomena.

31. Special efforts have been made to achieve an increased specialized field-level presence. The key is to have an impact where it matters most—on the ground, with lawmakers and law enforcers. In that regard, the UNODC global network of field offices has been a major asset. Those offices contribute to and facilitate the delivery of technical assistance by UNODC in the counter-terrorism work of the United Nations. In particular, a subregional project component for West and Central Africa was initiated by the UNODC Regional Office for West and Central Africa in Dakar and then elaborated by UNODC in coordination with the Executive Secretariat of the Economic Community of West African States and the General Secretariat of the Economic Community of Central African States. The first element of that project component was the aforementioned Madrid Ministerial Round Table of West and Central African Countries on a Counter-Terrorism Legal Framework of May 2006.

32. UNODC seeks to implement its activities with the assistance of national, subregional and international experts in order to combine and benefit from expertise and perspectives at all levels. Those experts provide specialized national and subregional input and perspectives and facilitate effective follow-up to the activities of the Terrorism Prevention Branch and the Global Programme against Money-Laundering. Currently, UNODC field experts are placed in Latin America and the Caribbean, Central Asia, West and Central Africa, East, Southern and North Africa, the Middle East, South-East Asia, the Pacific and the Commonwealth of Independent States. They had an opportunity to share lessons learned and discuss best practices in providing technical assistance in international cooperation on legal matters in combating terrorism during the Terrorism Prevention Branch field expert training held in March 2006 and the Global Programme's mentors meeting held at UNODC headquarters in December 2005.

33. Efforts are being made to maximize impact through operational partnerships and to avoid duplication of efforts. The technical assistance activities of UNODC are closely coordinated, and, whenever feasible, they are carried out jointly with other United Nations bodies, in particular the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, and with regional and international organizations. Consultations with the International Atomic Energy Agency have been initiated regarding venues of cooperation for the ratification and the implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. Technical assistance activities are undertaken in close partnership, consultation and cooperation with the African Union, the Council of Europe, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Counter-Terrorism Action Group of the Group of Eight, the Economic Community of Central African States, the Economic Community of West African States, the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) and the FATF-style regional bodies, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Criminal Police Organization, the International Organization of la Francophonie, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the International Development Law Organization, the International Monetary Fund, the International Organization for Migration, the League of Arab States, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human

Rights, the Organization of American States, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Southern African Development Community, the Terrorist Working Group of the European Union and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, among others.

34. UNODC and the Commonwealth Secretariat, in particular its Criminal Law Section, have worked together for a number of years. In the year under review, the Terrorism Prevention Branch conducted several technical assistance and training workshops in partnership with the Commonwealth Secretariat, involving Botswana, Kenya, Lesotho and South Africa. In addition, the Branch provided substantive input for the Commonwealth Secretariat project on capacity-building in combating terrorism: training of trainers programme, held from 12 to 16 December 2005 in Nicosia, Cyprus and from 13 to 17 March 2006 in Kingston, Jamaica. The similarities of the mandates, approaches and main objectives of the two organizations provide a firm basis for a joint and collaborative programme of work focused on delivering technical assistance and training on counter-terrorism to selected Commonwealth countries. A common understanding has been reached to implement activities and partnerships jointly to the maximum extent possible.

35. Over the past years, cooperation between UNODC and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) has continued to evolve. There has been strengthened cooperation with the Action against Terrorism Unit and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of OSCE, and joint participation in UNODC and OSCE technical assistance activities. OSCE has joined UNODC in both bilateral and subregional technical assistance workshops in Central Asia and the Caucasus. A joint OSCE–UNODC expert workshop to promote international judicial cooperation and UNODC technical assistance tools took place in March 2006. The Terrorism Prevention Branch and OSCE are planning a joint subregional counter-terrorism workshop, scheduled to take place from 13 to 15 September 2006 in Antalya, Turkey. The Global Programme against Money-Laundering and OSCE are also working on a joint subregional workshop for prosecutors in Southern Europe on money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, scheduled to be held in Vienna in September 2006.

36. UNODC has been building on a strategic partnership with the European Union (EU) in the implementation of the EU legislative framework for enhancing international cooperation against terrorism within the requirements of the numerous Security Council resolutions and the universal legal instruments against terrorism. Thus, UNODC has shared information regarding ongoing and planned technical assistance activities at the country and regional levels with the EU interlocutors responsible for planning and implementing counter-terrorism actions. The Terrorism Prevention Branch and the Directorate-General for External Relations of the European Commission have identified transregional actions that can be elements of cooperation. Common priorities have been identified as a result of several meetings with representatives of the Council of the European Union Working Party on Terrorism (COTER), the EU Counter-terrorism Coordinator and the European Commission.

37. Building on the previous engagement and cooperation with the African Union (AU), and in line with the overall UNODC plan of action for Africa, UNODC has sought to strengthen collaboration with AU on legal and related aspects of counter-terrorism. The Terrorism Prevention Branch participated in the second

high-level intergovernmental meeting on the prevention and combating of terrorism in Africa, organized by the African Union Commission, during which the African Centre for Study and Research on Terrorism was officially established. Collaborative initiatives have been developed with the Regional Security and Counter-Terrorism Programme of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and with the Southern African Development Community (SADC). Detailed workplans have been elaborated with IGAD and SADC, including a series of national and subregional workshops and technical assistance activities. A training seminar for member States of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) on international legal cooperation against terrorism, jointly organized by UNODC and ECOWAS, is scheduled to take place in Abuja, Nigeria from 24 to 26 July 2006.

38. UNODC has established a permanent operational partnership with the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States. Training seminars, workshops, ministerial conferences and technical assistance missions have been jointly organized and conducted by the two organizations in an effort to ensure full coordination, avoid duplication of efforts and increase the impact of technical assistance through synergies and complementarities. Activities undertaken include the organization of specialized training courses for judges and prosecutors at the national, subregional and regional levels and of joint national legislative assistance missions, in particular to Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Paraguay, to provide the necessary support for the correct incorporation into national legislation of international requirements established by the international legal framework against terrorism.

39. UNODC and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) have further strengthened their working relationship during the reporting period. UNODC addressed the ICAO Council on 30 November 2005 in order to inform the representatives of States members of the Council and concerned ICAO Secretariat staff about its special legal advisory services in criminal matters. On the occasion of the launching of the ICAO Coordinated Assistance and Development Section (CAD), the Acting Chief of CAD and the Chief of the Terrorism Prevention Branch held working sessions to initiate cooperation in the field of technical assistance and training in aviation security, especially relating to its legal framework. Future cooperation may include the regular sharing of information and technical assistance tools, undertaking joint technical assistance activities in areas of training, enhancing States' capacity to prevent terrorism and developing joint training programmes.

40. During the general meeting with the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), held in Vienna in July 2004, OIC and UNODC agreed to enhance their cooperation in the delivery of technical assistance, cooperate on capacity-building and training for the OIC General Secretariat and closely coordinate with each other in convening a counter-terrorism workshop. On 11 and 12 April 2006, the Terrorism Prevention Branch held a workshop on the universal legal framework against terrorism for OIC General Secretariat staff and representatives of the counter-terrorism group of OIC member States.

41. UNODC has also strengthened cooperation with the Department of Political Affairs and the World Bank, both of which are members of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force. The Department of Political Affairs has facilitated

briefings by UNODC to the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999), in March 2005 and June 2006 in close coordination with the Chairpersons of those two Committees. Furthermore, UNODC and the World Bank have held consultations regarding joint technical assistance projects, including on anti-money-laundering and the financing of terrorism.

E. Technical assistance tools

42. In order to achieve sustained impact, UNODC has developed and disseminated effective tools for international criminal justice cooperation in countering terrorism. In addition to previously elaborated technical assistance tools such as legislative guides, checklists and a counter-terrorism legislation database, new tools and substantive working documents are being developed.

43. In its resolution 2005/19, the Economic and Social Council requested UNODC to finalize the draft guide for legislative incorporation and implementation of the universal instruments against terrorism and to develop it further to serve as a training tool when providing assistance to States, upon request, in capacity-building for the implementation of the universal instruments related to terrorism. That guide was finalized during the period under review.

44. The Terrorism Prevention Branch is currently developing a training manual on judicial international cooperation against terrorism for members of the judiciary and prosecutorial office. In order to take fully into account the needs of the practitioners, the working document will be based on the recommendations of a group of experts. The first expert meeting took place in Siracusa, Italy, in June 2005. During the second meeting, in Vancouver, Canada in May 2006, 18 governmental experts and experts of international organizations commented on the parts of the draft manual that specifically deal with the principles and obligations of international cooperation against terrorism, mutual legal assistance, extradition, other forms of surrender and tools of international cooperation. The group of experts will meet again at the beginning of 2007 to review the progress made on drafting the manual. Other new tools currently being developed include a guide on the new International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and comparative studies on counter-terrorism legislative developments in selected countries.

45. The Legal Advisory Section of UNODC has developed a mutual legal assistance request writer tool, which enables justice system authorities to quickly draft effective mutual legal assistance requests to other States. The software tool covers all serious crimes under international conventions, including the terrorism instruments. The Legal Advisory Section is also developing a new software tool to enable central authorities, judges and prosecutors to write effective extradition requests and is elaborating a model bill on the proceeds of crime and unlawful activities, money-laundering and terrorist financing for common law countries. In addition, UNODC has further developed a universal model law on extradition and is in the process of finalizing a model law on mutual legal assistance.

46. In a joint initiative with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Global Programme against Money-Laundering of UNODC finalized, in March 2006, an

updated version of a model law on money-laundering and the financing of terrorism for civil law systems. The model law provides guidance for countries wishing to enact or update their legislation on anti-money-laundering and countering the financing of terrorism. It incorporates revised internationally accepted standards on anti-money-laundering and countering terrorist financing, such as the relevant United Nations conventions, various regional agreements and best practices. Additionally, UNODC participated with representatives from the Commonwealth Secretariat and IMF in a working group to update the model law for common law countries.

V. A results-oriented approach: measuring impact

47. UNODC measures the impact of its technical assistance and related activities against a set of tangible indicators such as the increase in the number of ratifications of the universal legal instruments, the number of countries that draft and implement new counter-terrorism laws following assistance from UNODC, the number of officials trained and briefed on the universal instruments and related issues, the number of technical assistance tools developed and disseminated and comments from Member States on the work of UNODC.

48. UNODC has conducted many technical assistance activities at the national, subregional and regional levels within the framework of its global project on strengthening the legal regime against terrorism. Since the project's launch in January 2003, the Terrorism Prevention Branch has supported 119 countries directly or indirectly in ratifying or implementing the universal legal instruments against terrorism. Its work has contributed significantly to increasing the number of countries that have ratified all first 12 universal legal instruments related to terrorism. In January 2003, when the global project started, only 26 countries had ratified all 12 universal instruments. As of 27 June 2006, 79 countries had ratified all 12 universal instruments. Similarly, 98 countries had ratified six or less of the 12 instruments in January 2003. As of June 2006, that number has been brought down to 33. In addition to increased ratifications, the assistance has resulted in the development of new or revised counter-terrorism legislation in at least 29 countries. More than 3,000 criminal justice officials have been given specialized substantive briefings on the legal aspects and obligations of the universal legal instruments against terrorism. As mentioned above, UNODC has developed or is in the process of developing several technical assistance tools to help countries strengthen their legal regimes against terrorism.

VI. Resources for technical assistance

49. The counter-terrorism activities of UNODC have grown significantly in number and in scope since 2003. A further expansion of activities will be necessary because an increasing number of countries will seek assistance in strengthening their legal regimes against terrorism and because more of the requesting countries will move from the phase of ratification support to the phase of implementation and related support for national capacity-building. That will necessitate increased resource allocations both in the United Nations regular budget—which currently allocates only $1 million per year from which the core functions of the Terrorism

Prevention Branch are provided for—and in voluntary contributions, which allow for the delivery of technical assistance.

50. Donor support to UNODC and its Terrorism Prevention Branch has been steadily increasing. Between January 2003 and June 2006, voluntary contributions, both paid and pledged, for the activities of the Terrorism Prevention Branch totalled approximately $11.6 million. Contributions and pledges were made by the following 16 countries: Austria, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. However, the core resource allocation in the regular budget has remained the same since 2003.

51. The technical assistance activities of the Global Programme against Money-Laundering rely almost exclusively on voluntary contributions from donors, which include: Canada, France, Italy, Liechtenstein, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and the Asian Development Bank. However, while the number of requests for specialized assistance is increasing, only one position is funded under the regular budget.

VII. The road ahead

52. **The focus of the technical assistance activities of UNODC and its Terrorism Prevention Branch is increasingly shifting from the phase of ratification support to the phase of legislative implementation and support for national counter-terrorism capacity-building for criminal justice systems, in particular through specialized training in the judicial and prosecutorial fields. The promotion of international and regional cooperation in criminal matters relating to terrorism will continue to be a priority focus, and special efforts will be made to promote the ratification of the new International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. While taking follow-up measures for countries that have been receiving assistance, especially in Africa, the Middle East and Latin America, substantial attention will be given to broadening geographical reach, in particular to countries in South Asia, East Asia and the Pacific and the Caucasus. UNODC will continue to build upon and enhance the relations established with relevant regional and subregional organizations in order to sustain political will.**

53. **The generous pledges received so far have provided the critical mass of resources to make the counter-terrorism technical assistance mandate of UNODC an operational reality. However, the further support of Member States is a prerequisite for success. Realizing the full potential of the expanded UNODC counter-terrorism activities requires increased resource allocations, both in the United Nations regular budget and in voluntary contributions.**

Notes

[1] General Assembly resolution 59/290, annex.

[2] Adopted on 8 July 2005 by the Conference to Consider Proposed Amendments to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material.

[3] Adopted on 14 October 2005 by the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the SUA Treaties (LEG/CONF.15/21).

[4] Adopted on 14 October 2005 by the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the SUA Treaties (LEG/CONF.15/22).

[5] General Assembly resolution 54/109, annex.

Annex

Other subregional activities conducted between July 2005 and June 2006

Other subregional activities that took place between July 2005 and June 2006 include: the regional judicial training seminar on terrorism and human rights, jointly organized by the Government of Spain and the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States, in cooperation with the Attorney-General's Office of Colombia, held in Colombia from 8 to 12 May 2006; the regional workshop on the promotion of international cooperation mechanisms prescribed in the universal legal instruments pertaining to combating terrorism, held in Cairo from 27 to 29 December 2005; the subregional expert workshop for member States of the Indian Ocean Commission to strengthen cooperation in criminal matters related to the universal instruments against terrorism, held in Nairobi from 13 to 15 December 2005; the regional training seminar for Latin American States on the prevention and fight against terrorism and terrorism financing, jointly organized with the Inter-American Committee against Terrorism of the Organization of American States, held in Buenos Aires from 29 November to 2 December 2005; the regional workshop on legislative implementation of universal instruments against terrorism and regional experiences in promoting international cooperation against terrorism for the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, held in Moscow from 28 to 30 November 2005; the third study tour for Portuguese-speaking countries on the ratification and implementation of the United Nations organized crime and corruption conventions and the universal anti-terrorism instruments, jointly organized with the Government of Portugal, held in Lisbon from 31 October to 4 November 2005; and a videoconference on the fight against international crime: corruption and terrorism, held in Vienna from 25 to 27 October 2005 for 360 magistrates from Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Rwanda and Senegal.